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Project Code	
Project Type	

FINAL REPORT 2017

PROJECT CODE : S414

PROJECT TITLE

SA Crop Variety Sowing Guides

PROJECT DURATION

Project Start date	1 July 2014					
Project End date	30 June 2017					
SAGIT Funding Request	2014/15		2015/16		2016/17	

PROJECT SUPERVISOR CONTACT DETAILS

Title:	First Name:	Surname:	
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PROJECT REPORT

<p>Executive Summary</p> <p>The SA Sowing Guide delivers timely information to all South Australian growers and advisors that assists them to make variety selection decisions on winter crops produced in the state, using information collected through the GRDC National Variety trials network as well as variety specific information collated by SARDI officers in-conjunction with plant breeders and pathologists.</p> <p>The SA Sowing Guide is delivered to growers and advisors in October/ November annually and is a collaboration between SAGIT, GRDC and SARDI.</p>
<p>Project Objectives</p> <p>To annually prepare, publish and distribute to SA grain growers, a "SA Crop Variety Sowing Guide" booklet.</p>
<p>Overall Performance</p> <p>The SA Variety Sowing Guide was produced and delivered to South Australian grain growers and advisers in spring in each year of the project, reaching 6700 grain growers, advisers and agricultural merchandisers.</p> <p>Staff who contributed to the SA Variety Sowing Guide:</p> <p>Mr A. Ware, Snr Research Scientist, BAgSc PT LINCOLN</p> <p>Mr R. Wheeler, Principal Research Scientist, WAITE PRECINCT (2014 and 2015)</p> <p>Ms S. Day, Research Officer, BAgSc, CLARE</p> <p>Ms A. Pearce, Snr Research Officer, BAgSc, STRUAN</p>

Mr I. McMurray, Research Scientist, BAgSc (Hon), CLARE
 Mr C Jeismann, Snr Research Officer, BAgSc, WAITE
 Mr S Nagel, Snr Research Officer, BAgSc, WAITE
 Ms S. Hoppo, Research Scientist, BAgSc (Hon), WAITE PRECINCT
 Mr K. Porker, Research Scientist, BAg Sc(Hon), WAITE PRECINCT (2016)

As well assistance was provided by SARDI pathologists Dr Hugh Wallwork and Dr Jenny Davidson, input from breeding and seed marketing companies and the Australian Crop Accreditation Service (ACAS).

Key Performance Indicators (KPI)

KPI	Achieved (Y/N)	If not achieved, please state reason.
Preparation, publication and distribution of "2015 SA Crop Variety Sowing Guide" The 2015 SA Crop Variety Sowing Guide was prepared and distributed via the GRDC "Ground Cover" mail list during October 2014	Y 1 November 2014 Completed	
Preparation, publication and distribution of "2016 SA Crop Variety Sowing Guide" The 2016 SA Crop Variety Sowing Guide was prepared and distributed via the GRDC "Ground Cover" mail list during October 2015	Y 1 November 2015 Completed	
Preparation, publication and distribution of "2017 SA Crop Variety Sowing Guide" The 2017 SA Crop Variety Sowing Guide was prepared and distributed via the GRDC "Ground Cover" mail list during November 2016	Y 1 December 2016	

Technical Information

The SA Variety Sowing Guide was produced and delivered to South Australian growers in Spring 2014, 2015 and 2016.

It provided growers with information on varietal performance, and key agronomic and disease resistance traits for wheat, durum, barley, oats, triticale, canola, field pea, lentil, faba bean, chickpea, lupin and vetch as well as reporting on herbicide tolerance traits of cereal and pulse varieties.

The SA Variety Sowing Guide project was a collaboration between SAGIT, GRDC and SARDI.

Conclusions Reached &/or Discoveries Made

The SA Variety Sowing Guide, as reflected in the 2017 GRDC grower survey (soon to be published), showed that South Australian growers had a very high level of recognition of the Sowing Guide as a source of independent variety selection information.

Intellectual Property

All information presented as part of the SA Variety Sowing Guides was collected from the GRDC funded National Variety Trial network, breeding companies and pathologists. As such this project has not generated any intellectual property and does not have the potential for commercialization of any information it has generated.

Application / Communication of Results

The 2015, 2016 and 2017 'SA Crop Variety Sowing Guides' published from this project have been distributed to all SA grain producers through the GRDC Ground Cover mail-list, reaching 6700 grain growers, advisors and agricultural merchandisers. Additionally, the guide was posted on the SARDI/ PIRSA and GRDC web sites with links to others sites such as NVT online. More than 2000 copies were also printed and distributed to seed retailers and commercial agronomists through the Wingfield based company, Seed Distributors, with costs fully absorbed by this company.

The SA Crop Variety Sowing Guides have assisted growers and advisors to make informed decisions on the selection of the appropriate varieties for their locality, giving them information on the relative yield performance, pathology traits and key agronomic characteristics of commercially available varieties.

Current estimates of genetic gain in wheat breeding across Australia are 0.86% per annum (GRDC Ground Cover Issue 31). This project has assisted growers to realize these gains through the adoption of varieties best suited their area.

The 2017 GRDC grower survey (soon to be published) found that 100% of growers in South Australia recognised the SA Variety Sowing Guide as source of reliable variety selection information and was the only state to record such a high figure.

POSSIBLE FUTURE WORK

Funding for this project is continuing as a collaboration between SAGIT, GRDC and SARDI.

The SA Variety Sowing Guide will continue to be published annually with feedback continually sort on how the publication can be improved.

AUTHORISATION	
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